

SUFFOLK COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 25, 2012 FIFTH LI REGIONAL WIB MEETING

Members Present:

Kim Carsten  
Commercial Driver Training

Samuel Chu  
S.C. Department of Labor

James DiLiberto  
Island Drafting & Technical Institute

Adrian Fassett  
Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc.

Vincent Frigeria  
New York Power Authority

J. Ronald Gaudreault  
QHC Advisory Group, LLC

Michael Griffin  
Strategic Planning Partners, LLC

Mark J. Grossman  
NYS DOL

Mike Locorriere  
Community National Bank

Elvira Lovaglio-Duncan  
Urban League of Westchester County, Inc.

John Lynch  
Veterans Enterprise Transport Services

Bruce R. MacArthur  
1-Source Electronic Components

Walter Markowitz  
North Shore/LIJ System/Southside Hospital

Martin Murphy  
NYS Education Department – Title II

Gregg Nicholson  
OMNTEC Manufacturing

Teresa O' Halloran  
Suffolk Transportation Service, Inc.

Susin Packert  
ACCES-VR

Robert Tobias  
S.C. Economic Development & Planning

Tammy Torelli  
Job Corps

John P. Walter  
Precipart Corp.

Youth Council Members: Barbara Egloff  
Eastern Suffolk BOCES

Joanne Folber  
Town of Islip Youth Bureau

Claire McKeon  
Town of Babylon Youth & Disabled Services

Rev. Roderick Pearson  
S. C. Youth Bureau

Dave Perkins  
Walt Whitman High School

Sandra Townsend  
S.C. Department of Social Services

Representatives: Tom Grecco  
S.C. Dept. of Social Services  
(Representing Gregory Blass)

Guests: Amy Lowth  
Diana Whiting

WIB Staff: Pamela Killoran

SCDOL Staff: James Andrews  
Marc Bossert  
Kirk Cronk  
Barbara D'Amico  
Marcus Duffin  
Rich Krebs  
Stacey Lesko  
Raymond O'Rourke  
Brenda Rosenberg  
Peter Simeone  
Barbara Stoothoff

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Long Island Regional Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Meeting was held on Thursday, October 25, 2012 in the Republic Airport Center at Molloy College in East Farmingdale, New York. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. James DiLiberto, Chair of the Suffolk County WIB, who presided over the meeting, introduced himself along with, Oyster Bay-North Hempstead-Glen Cove WIB Chair Harold Mayer and Alan Nachman Vice Chairman of the Hempstead/Long Beach WIB. Mr.

DiLiberto welcomed new members and thanked everyone for attending. The meeting is a result of a collaborative effort of the three Long Island WIBs: Hempstead-Long Beach WIB, Oyster Bay-North Hempstead-Glen Cove WIB and Suffolk County WIB. The WIB Directors for each of these WIBs meet regularly throughout the year to share best practices and formulate unified policies that will benefit Long Island's workforce. Once a year, we like to bring the members of all three WIBs together to meet our colleagues and to network with company and agency representatives that we typically don't get to meet with.

### **I. Regional Performance Report**

Harold Mayer, Chair of Oyster Bay-North Hempstead-Glen Cove WIB, gave a Regional Performance Report for WIA. Mr. Mayer reported that for the Program Year that ended June 30, 2012, our One-Stop Centers saw a combined total of 87,745 job seekers. Of this number a total of 11,671 were provided with skills development services and a total of 3,765 individuals were provided training. Each program year, the local WIBs are evaluated according to the Common Performance Measures. Mr. Mayer was proud to announce that all of the Long Island WIBs have again passed all Performance Measures. The indicators measure entries into employment, employment retention and average earnings for the Wagner Peyser and WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs. Mr. Mayer congratulated the One-Stop Center Staff and Workforce Partners on the terrific job they do.

### **II. Regional Grants**

Alan Nachman, Vice Chairman of Hempstead/Long Beach WIB gave an update on regional grant initiatives. He spoke about collaboration with the three Long Island WIBs to implement the Long Island Business and Workforce Investment Project under an Empire State Development Grant operated by the Town of Hempstead's Department of Occupational Resources. The project consists of two major components which are long term and short term training. The long term training has been implemented into two phases to date. Phase one is a healthcare information technology course provided by Hofstra University and phase two is a paralegal course also provided by Hofstra University. Under the short term component customers are receiving a variety of training programs related in multiple occupations including soft skills training. To date a total of 32 individuals have received training services under both components and 16 have entered employment. The program goal is to provide training to 114 individuals and have 57 of those individuals enter employment by May 1, 2014.

The three Long Island WIBs also collaborated to develop a Regional Plan which was submitted to the New York State Department of Labor in June of this year.

### **III. Labor Market Information Update**

Shital Patel, Long Island Labor Market Analyst from New York State Department of Labor gave a Labor Market Information update. Her focus was on the unemployment issues currently in the press as well as some of the different trends at the national level. She reported Long Island monthly unemployment rates and indicated that there has been an increase in 2012 with people looking for work. This may be a result of promising news of stronger job growth. Bottom line is it is harder to find a job on Long Island than it has been in the past. Ms. Patel advised that the white collar industries had the biggest gain in employment which is the higher paid jobs. Another area of growth is in financial services. The industries that are not doing as well are in the blue collar industries in the areas of construction and manufacturing. Healthcare is doing well and the trend seems to be outside of hospitals. Ms. Patel spoke of the different STEM occupations. Ms. Patel's PowerPoint presentation is attached for your files.

#### **IV. Workforce Issues**

Next Ms. Melinda Mack, Executive Director of New York Association of Training and Employment Professions (NYATEP) gave an update on the future of Federal Workforce Programs. Ms. Mack replaces John Twomey who retired in January. Ms. Mack gave an overview of NYATEP and their role. She reported on the importance of this election season. Any turnover in the House and Senate means new member education is critical. Ms. Mack talked about the CAREER Act that will establish a pilot program implementing a pay-for-performance model for the delivery of job-training services for States that choose to opt-in. It will also steer federal retraining funds to programs that provide workers with industry recognized credentials in demand occupations as identified by state and local workforce areas. The Building a Stronger America Act which aims to increase U.S. manufacturing, competitiveness and exports, combines seven previously introduced bills. She reported that on September 22, 2012, Congress voted to approve the Continuing Appropriations Resolution which funds the government through March 2013. Legislative proposals have been introduced to reform and reauthorize WIA and the Committee was unable to reach an agreement so it stalled. Ms. Mack said as a result of the Federal Budget Control Act of 2011, we are facing an 8.2% funding cut due to Sequestration. Ms. Mack advised what the WIBs should be doing such as reaching out to your local Congressional delegation and to start planning now by bringing together partners to create regional approaches. Ms. Mack's presentation is attached for your files.

#### **V. Regional Economic Development Council Overview, Workgroups, Consolidated Funding Application Process And Project Update**

Mark Grossman, NYS Commissioner of Labor LI Regional Representative and Barry Greenspan, Economic Development Program Administrator for Empire State Development, gave us a brief update on the Regional Economic Development Council. Mr. Greenspan reported on where the Council is at one year into the process. He advised that the Council was one of the four regions in the State that won the best plan award by the Governor and as a result they received \$101 million in funding. This allowed them to fund approximately 60 projects here on Long Island. All of these projects are under contract and well under way. Round two just ended and the Governor and the Strategic Team are very pleased with the results and the work being done. If Long Island is one of the awardees in round two a potential of \$25 million for infrastructure projects could be made available to Long Island. If they don't win the funding competition the funding awarded would be approximately \$5 million. In round two, the state is supporting 16 large priority projects that consist of large construction projects and infrastructure projects that will create 8,300 new jobs and leverage \$1 billion in private investment. The biggest success of the Regional Councils has been putting the right people in the room together. STEM is a critical part of the Council and is a focus in round two. Effort is focused on getting young people into careers in high technology because the businesses fear they can grow the businesses but they need to attract the people to be successful. The Council is looking at the long term goals and growing the economy. Mark Grossman spoke of the workforce and education portions of the plan and Long Island's success. He reported on the projects from 2011 in the Department of Labor training categories.

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Chair DiLiberto thanked Shital Patel, Melinda Mack, Mark Grossman and Barry Greenspan for presenting and he also thanked everyone for attending. Chair DiLiberto thanked Martin Murphy, Director of LI Regional Adult Education Network and his staff for arranging to have the meeting here. He said he looks forward to seeing everyone again at next year's Regional Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.